CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of making segments of a video, comprising:

providing video content that includes a series of video frames and reviewing the video;

sending a bookmark signal during review of the video to select a selected frame being displayed when the bookmark signal is sent;

identifying a characteristic feature of the selected frame and recording information corresponding to said frame on a storage medium;

identifying a segment of the video containing the selected frame, the segment having a segment starting point and a segment endpoint and storing at least a portion of the segment.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the characteristic feature of the frame is obtained from a frame signature created using the visual, audio or text properties of the frame.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the characteristic feature of the frame is its frame number.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the characteristic feature of the frame is its time stamp in the video.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the starting point and endpoint of the segment is based on detecting meaningful changes of information in the audio, visual or transcript portion of the video before and after the selected frame.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the information analyzed to detect changes is selected from the group consisting of DCT coefficients, color, edge, shape, silence, speech, music, closed captioning, and audio content of the video, and combinations thereof.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the segment is stored on the same medium as the video.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein a predefined length of the video from the segment start point is stored.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the segment start point is determined as a predefined length of the video before the selected frame.

10 The method of claim 1, wherein the stored segment contains at least one of EPG data, a frame of the segment, or transcript information from the segment and combinations thereof.

11. A system for identifying segments of a video for later retrieval, comprising:

a bookmarker component constructed to operate in connection with a video player that can display the content of a video that includes a series of video frames;

the bookmarker responsive to a signal from a signal transmitter constructed to send a bookmark signal to the bookmarker component, the bookmarker constructed to identify a selected frame of the video being displayed when the bookmark signal is received;

the bookmarker also constructed to identify a characteristic feature of the selected frame and record information corresponding to said characteristic feature on a storage medium and when the video is already divided into segments having a segment starting point and a segment endpoint, record at least a portion of the segment containing the selected frame or the bookmarker having a segmenting feature which can divide the video into said segments and the

bookmarker constructed to send at least a portion of the segment containing the selected frame to a storage medium.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the characteristic feature of the selected frame obtained from a frame signature created using the visual, audio or text properties of the frame.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein the characteristic feature of the frame is its frame number and the bookmarker is constructed to determine the frame number.

14. The system of claim 11, wherein the characteristic feature of the frame is its time stamp in the video and the bookmarker constructed to determine the time stamp in the video.

15. The system of claim 11, wherein the bookmarker includes an analysis engine constructed to detect meaningful changes of information in the audio, visual or transcript portion of the video to determine starting points and endpoints of the segment.

16. The system of claim 11, wherein the analysis engine analyzes information selected from the group consisting of DCT coefficients, color, edge, shape, silence, speech, music, closed captioning, and audio content of the video and combinations thereof.

17. The system of claim 11, wherein the bookmarker is constructed to record at least a portion of the segment on the same medium as the video.

18. The system of claim 11, wherein the bookmarker is constructed to record a predefined length of the video from the segment start point.

19. A method of identifying a desired video, comprising:

selecting a frame of the desired video and recording identifying features concerning the frame;

storing the desired video on a storage medium containing multiple videos;

searching the storage medium for the desired video by searching for the identifying features;

retrieving the video containing the frame having the identifying features.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the identifying features of the frame are obtained from a frame signature created using the visual, audio or text properties of the video.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein segments of the videos stored on the medium are compiled on a video index and the segment of the desired video contains the selected frame.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the videos are stored in a first location and the index is transmitted to the user at a remote location over the Internet.

23. A method of processing electronically stored content, comprising:

electronically storing and displaying items of content, selected from the group consisting of videos, audio, images, text and combinations thereof and while displaying the content, creating a bookmark by storing a selected segment of the content item having sufficient identifying information to identify the content item, then retaining on a storage device only the segment identifying the item and not the entire item, then at a later time, comparing the information identifying the item to identify that same item.

24 The method of claim 23, wherein the bookmarks are backed up into a remote device.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein the bookmarks are categorized on the basis of at least one of EPG data, transcript information, captioning information or video feature information.

26. The method of claim 23, wherein the bookmarks are accessed by at least one of web pages, mobile communications devices via a wireless connection, PDAs, and computerized watches.

27. The method of claim 23, wherein the bookmarks are stored at multiple levels and different individuals have access to the different levels.

28. The method of claim 23, wherein the bookmark is created by storing it with a first storage device onto a storage medium and is then transferred to a storage medium associated with another device.

29. The method of claim 23, wherein the item of content is deleted from the medium on which it had been stored after the bookmark is created, while retaining the bookmark.

30. A method of identifying items of content, selected from the group consisting of videos, audio, images, text and combinations thereof, comprising:

creating a bookmark comprising a selected segment of the content item having sufficient identifying information to identify the content item and retaining the segment identifying the item on a storage medium; downloading the bookmarks to a user at a remote location at the request of the user, the user then using the bookmarks to identify the original item of content from which the bookmark was created.